Ref A

DD/S 66-0554

29 Jan 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT   :   Control of Agency Communications

1.   This memorandum is for your _information_ and is in response to
your request at the Executive Committee Meeting on 29 November 1965 for
justification for the Agency's control of its own communications.

2.   Attached hereto is a memorandum from the Director of Communications
setting forth the relations of the Agency to the National Communications
Management, together with the basic responsibilities of these two establish-
ments.   Further, there is set forth the justification for the Agency's con-
trol of its communications system, together with examples of Agency communi-
cations performance exemplifying the need for Agency control of its own
communications.

3.   As can be seen from the attached, our relations with Lt. General
Alfred Starbird and the NCS are extremely good; we have followed the policy
of participating in all aspects of planning with the NCS to the fullest
possible degree without impinging upon the security of our communications
and our clandestine operational communications program.   This has worked
well and has proved quite practical and feasible for our respective interests
under the concept espoused by General Starbird of the continued separate
existence of the individual communications systems of the NCS.

4.   With regard to the Director of Telecommunications Management who is
also the Special Assistant to the President for Telecommunications (SAPT),
we have a good working relationship and at this point have not encountered
any practical difficulties which might adversely affect the Agency communi-
cations system.   He has been very helpful, for example, in connection with
reciprocal radio rights matters which directly affect our overseas installa-
tions.   He also has, as indicated in the attached memorandum, a primary role
with respect to the NCS including the review before Presidential action of
major NCS proposals such as the annual long-range plan.   It has been indicated
that the earlier void with respect to the budget and fiscal aspects of the
NCS might be filled through issuance of a government-wide directive supple-
menting Bureau of the Budget Circular 66-3 as it relates to programming of the
telecommunications system.   As preliminarily drafted by the staff of the DTM,
the directive would require establishment of a separate budget category
identifying in detail Agency telecommunications support and DTM/SAPT prior

approval of new programs exceeding one million dollars. The Departments of Defense and State, which informally receive copies of this draft paper, have objected strongly, pointing particularly to the financial control considerations. Should the directive ultimately be issued, the Agency would be faced with the same control considerations and the dilemma of separately identifying the telecommunications portion of its completely integrated system which satisfies operational requirements of all Agency components as well as providing its telecommunications.

5. Our policy should be that, consonant with NSAM 252 and the Presidential Directive of 21 August 1963, we will cooperate to the fullest degree possible in the national good of achieving systems compatibility without jeopardizing the control and security of our communications system. At the point where this control and security are jeopardized, we must necessarily make our position with the Bureau of the Budget, the White House or other national authorities. Should any developments occur pertinent to the above, you will be promptly advised.

R. L. Bannerman
Deputy Director
for Support

2 Attachments:
    Att 1:   Memo dtd 26 Jan 66 for
             DD/S fm D/CO, same subj.

    Att 2:   Brief of Incidents Demonstrating
             Unique Capabilities of CIA
             Communications System

DD/S:RLB:hrm (28 Jan 66)
Distribution:
    Orig - Adse w/0 atts 1 & 2 (for return to DD/S)
        1 - ER
        1 - D/CO w/o atts
        1 - DD/S subj w/ccy atts 1 & 2
        1 - DD/S Chrono